APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 201 asked by Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 20th August 1925, page 321 supra.]

Letter from the Chief Conservator of Forests Reference No. 657/25–16, *dated the* 14*th July* 1925.

[*Subject.*—Forest grievances—North Arcot district.]

[*Reference.*—Government Endorsements Nos. 75-I/25-1 and 75-I/25-2, dated 30th January 1925, and 27th March 1925, respectively, and demi-official No. 876-I/25-1, dated 3rd April 1925.]

The two petitions received with Government Endorsement No. 75-I/25-1, dated 30th January 1925, contain practically the same allegations which are dealt with below.

2. *Enhanced grazing fees.*—The rate of grazing fee in force both in the North and South Vellore divisions is eight annas per cow unit. This rate has been in force in the North Vellore division from 1st July 1917 and in the South Vellore division from 1st July 1921—vide Mr. Cox's letter No. 3428/20-1, dated 20th November 1920, disposed of in G.O. No. 2159, Revenue (Special), dated 9th December 1920. The rate of eight annas per cow unit can hardly be considered excessive.

3. *Permission to allow cattle to graze in a reserve where there is water in summer though it is not covered by the grazing permit.*—The District Forest Officers of the North and South Vellore divisions report that the ryots confine themselves to the particular ranges for which they take out permits and that there is no necessity for cattle to be taken from one range to another for the sake of water. There have also been no complaints hitherto in this matter. To remedy the grievances in respect of the Mel-Arasampet reserve which was partly situated in one range and partly in another, the grazing blocks in the two ranges in the South Vellore division were recently combined into one block—vide G.O. No. 593, Development, dated 22nd April 1925.

4. *Inclusion of unreserves in reserved forests and prohibition of grazing of cattle in unreserves.*—The District Forest Officers of the North and South Vellore divisions report that there is a large block of unreserve affording good grazing adjacent to Mel-Arasampet village. No unreserve has been reserved in recent years and the Forest department does not interfere with grazing in unreserves.

5. *Impounding of cattle grazing in Arasampet reserve which is situated partly in Polur and Santhavasal ranges and partly in Odagathur range when they are driven from one range to another during floods in river.*—The District Forest Officer, South Vellore, reports that there have not been any complaints in this respect. The grazing blocks in the Polur and Santhavasal ranges have also been combined into one block recently—vide G.O. No. 593, Development, dated 22nd April 1925.

6. *Paravamalai reserved forest.*—The petitioners state that the Paravamalai reserved forest may be disreserved as it contains only shrub and bushes, and no valuable trees. This reserve is open to grazing. It is classed as a ryots' forest and will eventually be handed over to panchayat management.

[Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi] [20th August 1925

the next few days, but I do submit that this will also be borne in mind that it does not conduce to the satisfactory transaction of non-official business if non-official days are put at the end of the sitting."

The hon. the PRESIDENT : "I am in the hands of the House. I wish to know exactly what the House wants to do. They have got two non-official days given to them by His Excellency. They can take them up now or they may take them hereafter."

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—"To-morrow being an official day, they can try and finish the official work, and have Monday and Tuesday as non-official days."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"It has been agreed that the Council will not sit on Saturday. The question is, supposing official business is finished to-morrow, whether the Council will sit on Monday and Tuesday and do non-official business or take two days in addition to the two days which His Excellency may normally allot for the next meeting."

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—"There are some non-official Bills and there is anxiety on the part of some Members to have these non-official Bills disposed of. That is the reason why they want to sit on Monday and Tuesday."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I take it then that if we finish Government business to-morrow, we will sit on Monday and Tuesday."

The Council adjourned at 4-5 p.m. to meet again at 11 o'clock the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.